

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 02913 311603Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /069 W
-----023284 311608Z /40

O P 311540Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4744
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2913

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: BALAGUER AND GUZMAN MEET

1. PRESIDENT JOAQUIN BALGUER RECEIVED ANTONIO GUZMAN LATE LAST NIGHT AT THE NATIONAL PALACE FOR A 16 MINUTE MEETING, THE FIRST SINCE UNOFFICIAL RESULTS ON MAY 26 SHOWED GUZMAN TO BE THE CLEAR WINNER OF THE MAY 16 ELECTIONS. THERE WERE NO PICTURES OF THE TWO MEN TOGETHER AND NO STATEMENT FROM THE PALACE ON THE ENCOUNTER, BUT GUZMAN DESCRIBED THE MEETING, WHERE HE WAS ALONE WITH BALAGUER, AS "EXTREMELY CORDIAL."

2. PRUPOSE OF MEETING ACCORDING TO GUZMAN WAS TO SET THE STAGE FOR A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS BETWEEN THE TWO MEN AND NO DETAILS WERE DISCUSSED IN INITIAL ENCOUNTER. GUZMAN SPECIFICALLY DENIED THAT THEY HAD DISCUSSED THE TRANSITION OF POWER AUG 16 OR THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES TO MAY 16 ELECTIONS BEING MADE BY REFORMIST PARTY.

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3. GUZMAN IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION SAID HE TOOK THE MEETING AS "TACIT RECOGNITION" BY THE PRESIDENT OF HIS VICTORY IN THE ELECTION IMILAR TO THAT IN BALAGUER'S CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM OF MAY 26.

4. COMMENT. FACT THAT BALAGUER RECEIVED GUZMAN (WHICH WAS REQUESTED

BY LATTER) IS POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN SOLIDIFYING IMAGE THAT HE
ACCEPTS PRD VICTORY. THOUGH PRESIDENT IS APPARENTLY WILLING TO
LET HIS PARTY'S EFFORTS TO CHALLENGE ELECTION RESULTS RUN THEIR
COURSE, BOTH HIS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE AND NOW HIS MEETING WITH
GUZMAN ARE SIGNS THAT THESE EFFORTS ARE NOT DIRECTED AT UNDOING
THE PRD'S ELECTORAL TRIUMPH. FACT THAT GUZMAN'S VICTORY
ACKNOWLEDGED EDITORIALY TODAY FOR FIRST TIME BY EL CARIBE,
WHICH HAS LENT ITSELF TO REFORMISTAS' TWO WEEK "DISINFORMATION"
CAMPAIGN, IS ANOTHER SIGN THAT GUZMAN'S ELECTION IS BEING
GENERALLY ACCEPTED BY REFORMISTAS.
YOST

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR, (BALAGUER, JOAQUIN), (GUZMAN, ANTONIO)
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